

Hear me now all of you in courtesy and in good fortune: I want to tell you of the knights errant who in ancient times went on adventures.

In the court of King Arthur, according to the book, we begin with Sir Trojan, who boasted a challenge to Sir Gawain.

Sir Trojan said: "O my companion, I want to challenge you head to head; who will find the most beautiful game among any knight of our deeds?" With the pledge made, they brought this promise to the king and queen, that each would stake his head on who could present the most beautiful game to them.

Once the knights entered this enterprise, into the woods they went. Sir Trojan caught a white doe which was whiter than an ermine. And yet he led it openly: the young and old could see her. Before Arthur he saluted and bowed; then he presented it to Guinevere the queen.

Sir Gawain rode further into the forest and at sunrise he found a serpent, which challenged him to a battle. The serpent then hurled itself over his shield and Gawain put his hand to his sword, which cut well, and tried to wound the serpent on its ribs. But the serpent, which knew swordplay well, was unable to be hurt by Sir Gawain.

From dawn to noon Sir Gawain fought with the horrible creature but he could not land a single blow on her, so great was that mighty serpent. She set his helmet and his shield on fire and Sir Gawain wasn't able to get any respite. "Alas for me! What a horrible thing has brought me down!" Sir Gawain said. He dismounted from his horse and said, "Alas, here I surrender myself to death!"

The serpent went to him and spoke, and she said "Oh knight, take comfort". Then she asked him gently, "Tell me the truth, oh lily of the garden, for courtesy's sake and for the sake of the love of ladies, are you from the Round Table?"

Sir Gawain answered her with fire and ardor in his heart, slapping himself on the face and hurting himself, because of the sight of her horrible form. "I was from the Round Table; now I am no longer, due to this misfortune. I wouldn't dare say who I am, since such a disgusting thing would lead to my death!"

The serpent said, "Ho! Don't be so disdainful of yourself, oh knight, for not being able to kill me. Across the land and the sea there have been countless numbers of the proudest knights to bear arms who could not land one single blow on me, so powerful and shrewd am I. I have already overthrown over a thousand knights, and you have been the flower of those I have encountered."

Sir Gawain said then, “Then I’ll not disdain myself save not being dead already, since it pleases the Lord God in Heaven that my misadventure be so great as to meet such a filthy creature with such great wit and fall into such bad luck. Give me death then and don’t delay any longer, I don’t want to see nor speak to you anymore.”

The serpent then said, “Oh sir, for courtesy’s sake, tell me your name and don’t hide it from me. There is a gentle knight, I swear, whom I have long loved. If you are him, my sweet soul, then I will give you great joy/jewels (the word is identical in Italian and ambiguity is intentional) more rich and beautiful than has ever had a knight who rides in the saddle.”

Sir Gawain replied, “No one but God could make anything beautiful out of you. But since you want to know my name, everyone calls me Lancelot.”

The serpent put herself forward hungrily and said, “You are lying to me with such a story. I have fought with Lancelot, and you are more wise and learned than he is.”

Sir Gawain then spoke to the serpent humbly and flatly and said “Now you understand me well, awful death.” He took his helmet off and said “I am called the loyal and brave knight Gawain. If I escape from you without dying, I will be greatly comforted and overjoyed.”

The serpent listened to his words eagerly and then transfigured her form. She became a dainty damsel, more beautiful than a garden rose. Then she said, “Now embrace me, o knight, for am I your love from this second.” She wrapped her arms around his neck and hugged him and said “You are the one I have wanted.” Sir Gawain was joyful then and warmly embraced the damsel. She said, “Oh adventurous knight, better than any who have ever mounted the saddle.”

And then he said, “Oh beautiful loving face, you who looks like an angel in every way. Tell me who you are and of who you were born, you who looks like an angel in every way?”

The damsel replied humbly and flatly, “I’ll tell you, since you want to know. I am the daughter of the fey Morgan, the lady who guards what is hers well. For a long, long time I have been kept far away, and yet I’ve always longed to see you. My people call me the Gay Maiden, now take joy of me with cheer.”

Sir Gawain held back no longer and embraced the maiden. I hear that he plucked the flower from the branch of the perfumed lady and then said “Oh ever beautiful, god of love, you have fulfilled me”. And so Gawain was with the rose of the balcony until none. Sir Gawain now remembered the challenge he had staked his head on and he began to weep strongly, shedding tears, and losing the color of his face.

The maiden spoke to him then, “Proud and wise knight, tell me the truth without delay. Does it not please you to have my love?”

Sir Gawain said, “My soul, I think I am more rich and well repaid than if I had the world at my mercy and was in Heaven. But I must leave you with great sorrow because I never think I will see you by my side again. It is fitting I should die at the court because I have made a boast and can’t provide proof for it.”

And the Maiden said, “Oh my love, take this ring and wear it. Anything under God will you receive if you ask this ring for it. And when you want me nearby, ask it of the ring. But tell no one of the joy you had, or else the ring shall lose its power.”

Sir Gawain swore to the maiden never to tell anyone of their joy and to only call to her after evening, in the dark of night. He could not get enough of her. The maiden then returned to her serpent form and Sir Gawain prepared a horse. The first wish he asked of the ring was for a powerful and beautiful destrier, and a destrier appeared before him with a squire leading it in front.

Sir Gawain was thus mounted and joyfully rode along the path. Soon, he asked the ring for 100 knights and 12 wounded barons to go to the court as his prisoners. Then, he asked the ring for a new kind of animal, one with the hind legs of a horse, the front legs of a griffin, the tail of a fish, the wings of a peacock, and a face like a woman with one white eye and one black eye. This was a new beast never before seen.

The barons came to court and said they came because of Sir Gawain who had wounded them all. “We go to prison for him” they said. Then strong Gawain arrived joyfully, and all the knights went to see him and the great hunt he had brought, and so did many barons.

With 100 knights, Gawain rode back joyfully on horseback. Each knight had his squire beside him, with the new beast being transported by two poles on a destrier amidst them. All around went to marvel at the creature; mothers did not expect even their daughters to go and see it. Small and large, all bowed to Gawain and said: “Welcome, baron!”. And he led the new beast to the queen and the queen accepted it and placed it upon her balcony, so that all who passed would wonder at it. Sir Trojan, meanwhile, feared for his life and quickly left the court

Sir Gawain went to sleep then and was awakened by the dawning of a new day at midnight. To the ring he immediately spoke, “Now I beg of you, do not delay, immediately make the Gay Maiden appear in my arms!”. It pleased him as she came then and she appeared in his arms. The two lay together as though dead, stretching out next to each other.

And the Maiden said to him, “Don’t let our love fade away! Do not manifest it or speak of it, if you don’t want to lose this joy.”

Sir Gawain replied “Do not worry!”.

Now all over the land he played and all the people were astonished at the great cheer he showed. And so, the queen sent for him and led him to her chambers, showing him great jewels/ joys; of herself she spoke frankly. But Sir Gawain would have nothing to do with her vile pleasures.

So the queen called forth all the women and maidens and called up a tournament. The knights armed themselves immediately and went to the palace quickly. “Let everyone boast,” said the queen, “for I want to know who has the finest joy.”

All the women, maidens, and knights began to boast, each of their greatest joys and then offering proof. Sir Gawain was in the midst of them and when it was his turn to speak, he said “After all that everyone has boasted, I don’t want to speak about this.”

The queen called to Sir Gawain and said to him “Oh you wicked and ignorant man! You are the rudest in this court. You’ve boasted of nothing yet, so now give us a greater boast than any knight here. If you really are such a great man, you will boast greater than every other knight.”

Then Sir Gawain said, “Here is my boast, which I will prove: I am more adventurous, I tell you, than any knight who has carried a lance. And, one could search the whole world and not find so fair a lover as my dear damsel, for she is the flower of all the beautiful ladies.”

The queen announced to everyone then, “You will now understand the calling of this court. To the counts and barons and knights errant; small, great; as many as you all here: in three days, you will return here, and I shall have the heads cut off of whomever boasted and could not prove it.”

The barony of the court departed, and Sir Gawain went to his chambers. He found the ring and said to it, “Now help me! Take my message to the Gay Maiden and tell her to greet me and come here with a clear face.” But the ring’s power was gone now, for he had displayed his joy.

And so Sir Gawain wept loudly and said “Alas! I surrender to death!”. Still he spoke to the ring, and said “I didn’t know what I was saying.” Then he begged of it, “Please help me because I’m in a bad situation!”. But begging the ring did nothing, since it had lost its virtue and power.

Three days passed and the queen said to all, “Now provide proof of your boast.” Sir Gawain could not stop crying and his expression was one of total loss. So he called again, “Oh young maiden, fair Gay Maiden, if you don’t want me to die, please come and help me, I’m in a really bad situation!”

The third day came and went and still the ring did not see it worth it to respond to his begging. Gawain was told then that he had to prepare quickly to come to court, as it had been judged that his head must be cut off. Dressed in black silk, Sir Gawain went to the court.

King Arthur declared then, “Bring forth the block, the axe, and mace, with all the barons and knights errant, and let us all go to the square.” Crying, all of them went that way and Sir Gawain embraced each one. Women and maidens cried everywhere for such a good knight being lost.

Sir Gawain, like a noble baron, carried the executioner’s axe and block. He did this because he thought it right, taking it from the one who was leading him, saying “Since I have betrayed the Maiden who loved me so much, since I have failed in my love, it is well that I should die in pain.”

Sir Gawain went to the square and a cloth of silk was presented to him for the execution. Sir Gawain put himself in on the scaffold and laid down the executioner’s axe and block. All the knights felt great pain for him, as he was a good and well-distinguished knight. They all turned their backs and began to leave, unwilling to see him die so cruelly.

“Listen to me, bring back the barony quickly” Sir Gawain asked of Arthur. “This grace, by God, please grant me! I want to be accompanied by them when I die; this gift would make me happy. Let all the barons of the court come and see my death.” King Arthur brought them back so that they all surrounded Sir Gawain while crying as they prepared for him to leave them. Sir Gawain spoke then, “I’m not mournful to die and I commend my soul to God. I shall die since it pleases my love.”

Gawain knelt at the block then and called out, “Oh rose on the balcony, if it’s what you wish, then dying doesn’t bother me. My death was well-deserved, a well-deserved death for a wicked man. Where are you, oh graceful lady? I would just like to see you one last time; then I would not regret dying.”

Now the Maiden was filled with pity, and so she ran forth into those lands to save him from death and give him his life. Dressed in black silk, through many marvelous paths she went and never was a young lady ever seen who was more bold. She set out with a great many cavalry and people in order to rescue Sir Gawain. The Maiden called upon thirty thousand maidens, all with black silk clothes and brighter than the stars. Away they rode

through every forest, twenty hosts all told and all of them fair. Each host had a thousand cavalry with good arms and riding destriers.

Now ready, the Maiden rode towards Camelot without resting. As the book says, there was such drumming and trumpeting that it was like a tempest when this army arrived by magic. When King Arthur heard of this, he postponed good Gawain's death.

All the knights of fortune went out to see that great crowd, quickly taking up their arms and riding into the countryside. The knights were terrified of this army, as it covered the plains and the mountains. Sir Gawain was at their front; he wanted to be in the first to fight.

The Gay Maiden with her great banner now came to a halt, appearing like a bright star, making all the people marvel. She came forward, out of the ranks of her army, and began to lay forth great accusations on Gawain, "Oh knight, bad and disloyal! May high God put you in harm's way! Oh you disloyal man, why did you reveal me? Curse the man who gave you your sword! You have deceived the gentlest maiden you would have ever found. Now for your sake, I will be imprisoned. I might as well die now, for my mother will imprison me so cruelly that it would be better to die."

Both Gawain and the Gay Maiden wept loudly and then both embraced before the king and his court, who saw them and marveled at her beauty. The Gay Maiden took leave of good Gawain that day and so she said to him, "You should find a lover, for you're not going to see me nor speak to me anymore."

The Gay Maiden left then and returned to wise Morgan. When her mother saw her, she asked "Now where are you coming from, whore?". The fey Morgan then had her daughter imprisoned so deep in a tower that she could not see light, sun, moon, or stars, and put her in water up to her chest.

King Arthur spoke to Sir Gawain then and said, "Ah, Sir Gawain you jester! You have just deceived the most beautiful lover a knight has ever had in this world. This woman was more brilliant than a star and her beauty had no bottom. You wretch! You've made such a mistake, in all your life you will never see her again!"

Sir Gawain spoke then and said, "My lord, if Christ forgives me, I don't know where I wouldn't go to find that kind person again. I will not cut my beard nor hair, nor eat on any tablecloth, until I regain my hope. Nor will I return here." Having said that, he took his leave and left from Camelot to ride off to distant parts. The baron Gawain did not know where to go and he asked many about Morgan, but no one knew where she was. "Here" or "there" they said, but no one knew the way.

One day, while riding through the bush, Sir Gawain arrived at a spring. There a knight armed in mail was leaning, one hand on his forehead. The knight asked Gawain for a battle; he wanted to fight him and dishonor him. Sir Gawain called for the other knight's name.

"They call me Breus. Now you know it" he said. "I am looking for Tristan, Lancelot, Sir Gawain, and the good Hector of the Fens. Palamedes, much-learned Galahad, Trojan, and Lionel I would find. Sir Yvain, Arthur of Camelot, even Lombardo and any other knight errant would suffice for my affairs too. And that's because I want all of them to hang, and by force or treachery I would like to betray them."

"I challenge you!" Sir Gawain told him, and at the first blow he knocked down Breus, the one born from a bad nest. And then Gawain said to him, "Now you have to repent, and I trust you to give up your evil will now." And Gawain left Breus dejected there while he went on his way.

Six months and more he rode, never ceasing his search. He arrived at a castle then and dismounted from his horse. He went up the stairs and found there were no people inside, just a table laden with food of every single kind. Gawain sat at the table and four young ladies suddenly appeared before him and served him honorably. A hundred young ladies stood in the cloister, all of them weeping very hard. So Sir Gawain asked why they were making such a lament.

And so the women gave him the cause, unable to stop their tears. "We weep for the Gay Maiden who is in prison, and who we now cannot help. An evil, felonious knight revealed her joy. His name was Gawain the disloyal, and may the high God always put him to worse!"



Sir Gawain said to them, “Oh damsels, for this courtesy you’ve done me, if you know where her beautiful self is, and who is it that keeps her captive, I will go where you will tell me. For your love’s sake, oh my gentle, slender lady.”

The young lady answered him, “Now go away using that path, and you will find her.”

Then Sir Gawain mounted his destrier and rode until noon, arriving near a fortress surrounded by a garden with a spring. A lady rode along the path with a hundred damsels at her side, and when Sir Gawain saw them, he saluted the lady and damsels.

And that lady, who was very irate, replied, “Ho! Ill-fortune to you! Because of the deception done to the Maiden, all knights without fail I will hate. It is because of knights like you that she is imprisoned. I don’t want to salute any knights, for the sake of Gawain the disloyal. May the high God give him a deadly prison.”

Sir Gawain said, “What fault do I have for the villainy of other knights?”

She answered, “Each one is evil and guilty. For her love, as many as there are, I swear to the high God that I will do great harm to all knights. For the great fault of that faithless one, I would eat them all with my teeth.”

Sir Gawain replied, “What shall I say to that knight if I found him? I wouldn’t show him evil will and I would help him rescue his love. I have loved him and still love him with good courage, it would be great villainy for me not to help him. To help him find his lover, I would fight with all my might.”

And the lady said, “Oh traitor, so you are acquainted with Sir Gawain? On this day, for his love, I will give you a swift death. I will immediately arm a hundred knights of great valor.” And the lady gave the order so Sir Gawain would be captured by them.

The knights did not hesitate, and surrounded the good Gawain. They said, “Go to our prison. If not, you will die on this day.” Sir Gawain entrusted himself to God, and then his noble self advanced on them. With his lance and shield in his hand, he cared not for these hundred knights.

Three knights parted from the ranks, trying to hurt Sir Gawain. One, two, three he wounded, and in mortal pain the three knights died. They needed no doctor, for the blows were given with such good heart. Sir Gawain struck many down and then the others fled, crying out, “God help us!”

Sir Gawain, a man of great worth, followed after them without fear. The knights tried to flee into the forest, for their armor did nothing to protect them from his sword.



Whoever he hit with his good-hearted blows truly had their death guaranteed. Before evening, as the sun set, he had slaughtered all of the knights.

And the lady, who was quite beautiful, came before Sir Gawain and spoke to him very sweetly, “Oh knight, God grant you a good life. You are the most proud I have seen in the saddle.” She invited him to stay with her and Sir Gawain accepted the invitation, entering the castle with the lady.

He was led with haste to chambers where he was disarmed, bathed, and his wounds treated gently. Then the lady said to him, “Oh worthy knight, tell me your name, and don’t hide it from me.”

Sir Gawain replied, “Gladly. I am called the Poor Knight.”

Then the lady said, “If you are poor, don’t worry; I am a rich and well-off lady. Surely I can give you this fortress for assurance and everything else you’d like, and I’d still have a lot of money besides. But I pray, knight, that by your will you take your joy with me before I die.”

Sir Gawain said, “Listen to me now, I cannot take joy with you, for it might worsen my cruel wounds. But I will promise one thing, in good faith and if you consent; I swear by holy Mary that if you will tell me where the Maiden is, I will have to take you as my dear lady.”

She replied, “I’ll tell you. She is in a very strong city, for day and night, at every corner, its doors are strongly guarded. As for the lady with the clear face, I think she is within the pain of death, since she is in a strong, dark prison and waist-deep in water. Inside that city is a castle made of beautiful and shining marble, with 2,000 windows of crystal. The walls really are diamond and no hammer or pick can take a chunk from them; they were truly made by art (magic art). You couldn’t give her any help, as she’s in that city named Pela Orso.”

Sir Gawain replied, “I want to go. If I can help that shining lady, certainly it’ll be a great service to good Gawain, who is so brave. As for you, my lady, then I will return later to give you joy gladly.” And so after resting for 4 days, he rode off for Pela Orso.

He did not dally as he rode to the city, yet when he arrived at Pela Orso late, he found all of the doors locked. So he spent the night outside of the city, waiting until morning. In the morning, he rode to the door, but the guards saw him at once. When they saw the knight coming, the doors were all locked. A guard said, “Do not come forward without first giving your name.”

Sir Gawain said, "I am a merchant and I want to make my trades here to make a living."

The guards said, "You will not enter. You don't have the look of a merchant."

Sir Gawain was very upset, and so he rode around the city, giving death to all he could find. Small or large, with his sword he cut them all, and so he let no one live in peace around the city. He made a great war upon the city so that day and night the doors remained locked.

In those areas that he fought, all the castles and towers were ceded to Sir Gawain. He raised a great host against the city and fought them for more than four years. Those outside and within the city began to plot greatly, and they thought, "Let's sally out. By opening the doors we can kill him immediately."

The fey Morgan had been the one to order the ones outside to perform this greatly treacherous play. She unsealed one of the doors, within which was a great force. They quickly came to give a great battle, attacking Gawain's forces from the front and from behind without mercy. May Christ and his saints help them!

The Poor Knight who was Sir Gawain commended himself to God, being hit by lances and swords. He spurred his destrier, and then said, "This was a bad bet!" He led the first row with his brandished sword, and he made all his enemies begin to flee.

In this manner he continued to ride forward into that force of many strong men. In this way he arrived into the city and waged a great battle, with whomever he hit once being truly led to death. The people of the land then surrendered themselves and Sir Gawain received them well.

In the end, the very worthy baron called to the people, all who had escaped being each returned to Gawain. They kneeled and saluted him sweetly as, "Poor Knight, noble and true, command us as it pleases you."

Sir Gawain said, "I will tell you what I want, and let it be done without delay. You will make it so that soon, the lady with the clear face is taken out of her prison. If not, I will cut off your heads and you will lose your lives. When getting her out of prison, be careful; if you're not, you're all dead."

Then those people remembered the Maiden's great goodness and her torment and felt great pity for her. "We didn't know that in the beginning. We would have definitely given you the city and all of our talents if we had." With a great clamor, the knights went then to the royal city where the Maiden was held.

But the castle was well-armed with many good men inside so that it was not worth it to fight, as those of the castle did not need to care for any battle. Still, the noise raised was so great that the Gay Maiden heard it well even in her dungeon. She was bewildered by the kind of noise she heard.

A damsel of the wise fey, who nonetheless still brought the Gay Maiden soup, went to the prison at that time. And she said, "Gay Maiden, stay strong. I will tell you and inform you that God's angel is inquiring about you. Now be cheerful and don't be afraid, for from this prison you will soon be released."

And the Maiden began to speak and said to her, "O my dear companion, I beg you. For God's sake don't trick me. I was Gay, now I have no joy. This is not right; what my mother does, making me feel such bitter pain So don't trick me anymore, it makes me feel sorrow. I was a Maiden before, now I'm a fish."

The damsel replied, "I'm not tricking you; rather I am painfully sorry for you. My face will always be weary if I don't see your face, my sweet love, joyful as it used to be. But I am promising you, delightful young lady, that I have seen a mighty and beautiful knight outside the castle."

And the Gay Maiden said, "My companion, if it pleases you, and if you wish to serve me completely, you will give me all that I need to write a letter."

And the damsel said, "This I can give you." And she got all that was necessary and gave the Gay Maiden a light so she could see and write what she wanted.

And so the Maiden wrote a letter and once it was written and then well-sealed, she said, "My dear and suitable companion, accomplish this by carrying this message. If I am freed from here, you will be well-rewarded. Give this letter to my lord in the army outside, if you want me to escape."

And the damsel responded, "My lady, command me, and I would serve you for as long as my life lasts. If you escape, then I will be cheerful." Immediately out onto the wall she went and threw out the letter carrying the message. A knight picked it up and then presented it to Sir Gawain.

Gawain had the letter unsealed and it said, "Greetings with love. If I am to escape, you must depart in secret and stay 15 days in hiding. Then you will pick 100 knights from among your men; don't be afraid. Dress them all in green in the manner of damsels and you likewise in vermillion will lead them. Know that I make you dress this way because the Lady of the Lake is my aunt. She often visits my mother and comes with a company of exactly 100, no more, no less. Then my mother will open the door, for she'll well believe

it's the Lady of the Lake. And if you pass through one of the doors, you can break the others; they're not so strong."

Sir Gawain, reading the letter, found it suitable and was very pleased with it. To you, my lords, to those of you who have not read the book, I will tell you about the true parentage of the two sisters just named by our bold author. They were bastard daughters of King Pendragon, that was their status.

Pendragon was father of the high king Arthur, as the story and true canto says. These two daughters were born from another mother, by way of adultery, in that canto. Thus they were sisters of King Arthur only on the father's side, that is all I will say. One was called the Lady of the Lake, who had raised Lancelot.

She killed the wise Merlin and locked him alive in a tomb. I will tell you his story: he could not foresee his end. He was in love with this lady, but she did not accept his love. She was wise and a great enchantress, and so she sealed up Merlin alive at his monument, so they say.

She was the sister of the fey Morgan, and she was really born from a father and mother. Now that I have told you about the relationship between them, I will return to the story without delay. Sir Gawain was full of high spirits, having read such a very wise letter. Now instructed by the Gay Maiden, he desired to obey her and said nothing more.

Sir Gawain rode out immediately with his hundred knights, and for 15 days he remained hidden. He clothed his warriors like damsels and went to the castle with them. A guard saw them coming from far away and spoke to the fey Morgan, "My lady, here comes your sister."

Morgan quickly commanded the doors to open up and all went forth because they were cheerful to see the Lady of the Lake. As the guards opened the doors, Morgan's chambermaid, who knows what is right, said, "My lady, you are deceived. These are other people; be warned."

Then Morgan was completely furious, and immediately began to run and shout, crying for the door to be shut immediately. Her cries had little use though, as Sir Gawain within was making his entrance and he had set his banner down to stop his army before the next door. However, before they could break down the next door, all of his men were killed.

But in the end the door was broken down, and Sir Gawain was able to enter. Small and large, all he could find, he gave death to them all until he could find the fey Morgan. He threatened to kill her, and said to her, "Oh you, wicked and ruthless one, lead me to the prison of your daughter."

Morgan led him out of fear to the prison where the Gay Maiden was imprisoned. Sir Gawain then got her out of that prison where she had become like a fish. Sir Gawain embraced her, and with joy she fainted onto the ground. When she came to, she began to sigh and cry with joy.

Sir Gawain then said to her, "My soul, what death do you wish to inflict on your mother?"

And she said, "Oh my sweet hope, let her now try this imprisonment. I want her to be in the prison she made her daughter suffer through." Sir Gawain quickly brought Morgan to the prison and had her locked up.

Sir Gawain also certainly threw in with her Morgan's chambermaid who, as I have said, had guarded the castle the Gay Maiden had been trapped in. With the Gay Maiden he returned to Camelot, but first he dismounted at the castle where he had first stopped.

This castle belonged to the Gay Maiden, and the lady of it was her dear chambermaid. This was the so-beautiful castle where Gawain had first ridden to on his quest. Great rejoicing was made for him as well as the Maiden who had escaped. So great was the rejoicing and singing that it would be impossible to describe it all.

Sir Gawain returned to court, taking with him the Gay Maiden. All of the wise people were overjoyed when they heard this news. All the knights took up arms and paraded about the city and they all had a great feast lasting more than a day. By your honor, I have made this inquiry.